



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 10 September 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- WWMT 3 Kalamazoo reports that tests of water samples from two water-storage facilities in Kalamazoo, Michigan that were recently breached show the city's water supply has not been contaminated, police and city officials said September 9. (See item [30](#))
- The Department of Justice is investigating a handful of apparently anti-Muslim incidents, including attacks against individuals and vandalism and other incidents at mosques or mosque construction sites, in Texas, Tennessee, California, and New York, according to the Associated Press. (See item [48](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 6, Los Angeles Times* – (International) **Mexican drug cartels cripple Pemex operations in basin.** The network of pipes, wells, and tankers belonging to the gigantic Mexican state oil company Pemex have long been an easy target of crooks and drug traffickers who siphon off natural gas, gasoline, and crude, robbing the Mexican treasury of hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Now the cartels have taken

sabotage to a new level: They have hobbled key operations in parts of the Burgos Basin, home to Mexico's biggest natural gas fields. In May, gunmen kidnapped five Pemex workers as they rode to the front gate of the Gigante No. 1 natural gas plant in the Burgos Basin. They have not been heard from since. Also reported is the disappearance of at least 30 other employees of subcontractors in the same region. A confidential report submitted to the U.S. Congress in July and made available to the Los Angeles Times acknowledged that stolen natural gas and delayed gas production have cost the company nearly \$50 million in the first 5 months of 2010. One of the U.S. firms working in Burgos, Halliburton, has spoken of a deteriorating security situation slowing its work. But Halliburton said it had no plans to pull any of its 600 workers. Kidnappings represent just one twist in broad security problems haunting Pemex. Engineers detect hundreds of clandestine siphons every year that steal enormous quantities of petroleum, much of which is then smuggled to the United States and sold at market price.

Source: <http://articles.latimes.com/2010/sep/06/world/la-fg-mexico-pemex-20100906>

2. *September 7, Firehouse.com* – (Arizona) **Arizona fire fighters spend hours at fatal scene.** Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) officials said two infants died after a three-vehicle crash in the eastbound lanes of Interstate 10 near Phoenix just before 1 a.m. September 5. The accident involved two passenger cars and a fully-loaded fuel tanker. Four people were rushed to local hospitals, Phoenix Fire Department officials said. The infants' mother and a woman driving the other car were taken to the hospital with life-threatening injuries, according to police. The driver of the tanker was not injured. Firefighters spent hours September 5 emptying the 8,000 gallons of fuel from the tanker into another tanker before they could right the truck and open the interstate. Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/ariz-ffs-spend-hours-fatal-scene>

3. *September 8, Gwinnett Herald* – (Georgia) **Gwinnett firefighters respond to gas leak.** Firefighters responded September 6 to a report of a gasoline leak at the QT gas station and convenience store on Jimmy Carter Boulevard in Norcross, Georgia. Crews found gasoline product on the ground that was reportedly leaking from an accidental spill-over as a tanker truck was filling an underground fuel storage tank. The tanker driver advised that the leak was possibly caused by a malfunction of an underground valve. There was approximately 50 gallons spilled in the parking lot. The QT was allowed to remain open, and only a section of the parking lot was sectioned off and identified as an immediate hot zone. A clean-up company from QT was requested to respond. A haz-mat team used an absorbent material on the ground to neutralize the product and bring the situation under control. Source: <http://www.gwinnettherald.com/Articles-c-2010-09-08-184202.114126-Gwinnett-Firefighters-respond-to-gas-leak.html>

4. *September 8, Bulk Transporter* – (New York) **PHMSA calls for comments on N.Y. rule covering gasoline transports.** New York is trying to convince the federal government that it should have the right to mandate its own rules for gasoline transport vehicles. New York's previous rules governing these vehicles were preempted in January 2009 by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration (PHMSA) after

being contested by the National Tank Truck Carriers Inc. (NTTC). A petition for reconsideration was filed with PHMSA by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The petition contends that gasoline cargo tank vacuum pressure test requirements are part of New York state environmental rules and do not fall under the U.S. Department of Transportation. Under the state rule, gasoline cargo tank operators must carry a copy of the most recent pressure/vacuum test results on the vehicle. In addition, operators must retain pressure/vacuum test and repair records for a gasoline transport vehicle for two years. NTTC has announced it will contest New York's petition for reconsideration.

Source: <http://bulktransporter.com/management/tank-truck/phmsa-comments-ny-rule-gas-transport-0908/>

5. *September 9, WRIC 8 Richmond* – (Virginia) **Explosion reported at Hopewell ethanol plant.** The cause of an overnight incident at the Appomattox Bio Energy plant in Hopewell, Virginia remains under investigation. Fire crews responded shortly before midnight, September 8 for reports of an explosion at the facility, which produces ethanol. Officials said they found a small pool of burning liquid and some fire in nearby ductwork, all of which was quickly extinguished. No injuries were reported, and there was no threat to the surrounding community, officials said. An explosion was heard and felt by area residents. A spokesperson from Osage Bio-Energy, which owns the plant, could not confirm exactly what happened. They could only confirm there was an “operational incident” at the plant. Osage officials said in a statement: “The plant management activated its emergency response plan. The situation was quickly brought to a safe resolution.”

Source: <http://www.wric.com/Global/story.asp?S=13124163>

6. *September 9, Reuters* – (Texas) **Valero says restarting Port Arthur refinery units.** Valero Energy Corp was restarting a crude unit and three others at its 310,000 barrel per day Port Arthur, Texas refinery September 9 a company spokesman said. The crude unit, called an atmospheric vacuum unit, a diesel hydrotreater and two sulfur recovery units were knocked offline by a power outage September 8. “All affected units at the Port Arthur refinery are in restart mode,” a Valero spokesman said in a statement. “The SRUs are in operation, while the hydrotreater and crude unit are in circulation. We do not expect that there will be a significant impact to supply.”

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSWEN951620100909>

7. *September 9, Reuters* – (National) **La Nina to raise Gulf storm risk as it strengthens.** A La Nina weather anomaly became stronger in August, and the phenomenon could spark a rash of late-season storms that could menace the energy-rich Gulf of Mexico, the U.S. Climate Prediction Center (CPC) said September 9. While storm projections have been scaled back recently, many weather watchers still expect a busy year. Any spike in storms would be worrisome in the Gulf of Mexico, which holds about 27 percent of U.S. oil and 15 percent of natural gas, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Many forecasters have said the number of hurricanes striking the United States rises during La Nina years and shrinks when El Nino hits, a situation that developed in 2009. CPC said the start of the northern hemisphere fall

means La Nina “will begin to exert an increasing influence on the weather and climate of the United States.” It said this would include above-average rainfall in the hydroelectric dependent Pacific Northwest and “below-average precipitation in the Southwest and in portions of the middle and lower Mississippi Valley and Tennessee Valley.”

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6883NS20100909>

8. *September 9, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Mechanical failure suspected in fire that damaged CSX locomotive in Goochland County.** Fire officials believe mechanical failure sparked a fire on a CSX locomotive in Goochland County, Virginia. The Richmond Times-Dispatch reports that the fire caused an estimated \$3 million in damage. The Goochland fire and rescue chief told the newspaper that the locomotive was pulling cars carrying coal when the fire broke out early September 8. Engineers stopped the train in a remote area beside the James River. No injuries were reported. Traffic on the CSX track was halted for about 8 hours.

Source: <http://www.wdbj7.com/sns-ap-va--trainfire,0,3123518.story>

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Chemical Industry Sector

9. *September 8, WKRC 12 Cincinnati* – (Ohio) **Chemical leak prompts evacuations.** Firefighters said a chemical leak that caused people to be removed from a park and a golf course in Miami Township, Ohio, is now under control, but the park will not reopen until September 10. The Miami Township fire chief said the leak at the Dupont Chemical Plant on Brower Road has been contained. The leak happened about 1:30 p.m. September 8 at the plant, which is just across from Shawnee Lookout Park. The substance involved is called oleum. It was transferred into another tank. It is highly corrosive and reacts violently with water. It is used in the making of explosives, among other products. The fire chief said they removed people from the park and its golf course strictly as a precaution. No one was ever in any danger because none of the substance ever left the plant site. Police also closed Brower Road for a few hours while an on site team from Dupont dealt with the problem.

Source: http://www.local12.com/content/breaking_news/story/Chemical-Leak-Prompts-Evacuations/hTF0VTAYwkm77a7qEc3A_g.csp

10. *September 8, NorthJersey.com* – (New Jersey) **Chemical spill causing delays on Route 80.** A chemical spill September 8 caused rubbernecking delays on eastbound Route 80 in Bogota, New Jersey, as crews attempted to clean up an unknown substance that leaked from a barrel. State police closed the right lane near Exit 67 to aid the cleanup. Traffic in the express lanes is moving well. The barrel was being hauled by a truck, state police said.

Source:

http://www.northjersey.com/news/transportation/090810_Chemical_spill_causing_delays_on_80.html

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

11. *September 8, NewJerseyNewsroom.com* – (New York) **Nuclear Regulatory Commission probes Indian Point.** Federal officials are investigating Entergy Nuclear Corps’ management of its massive steam generators following the latest in a series of mechanical failures which forced six plant shutdowns in the last 2 years. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspectors are specifically examining the cause of the September 3 malfunction in a steam generator serving the reactor in Indian Point 2 in Buchanan, New York, which triggered an automatic “trip” or shutdown. But a NRC spokesman said September 7, “We are always looking for trends and commonalities across the site. If the evidence points to a problem that is more systemic, then that is something we want to focus on,” he said. “We could look at this as a cross-cutting issue and ask does it affect other areas of plant operations? If they have reactor cooling pump problems at both plants, does it say something about the maintenance at the plant as a whole?” At this point, the spokesman said, NRC inspectors are treating this latest shutdown as a stand alone incident at Indian Point 2 rather than a problem in overall management at both nuclear units 2 and 3. The plant, which produces about 1,000 Megawatts of electricity sold primarily to Consolidated Edison, the regional power distributor, remains shut while Entergy officials try to determine why the pumping system serving the steam generators failed and allowed the water levels to rise to dangerous levels.
Source: <http://www.newjerseynewsroom.com/science-updates/nuclear-regulatory-commission-probes-indian-point>
12. *September 9, York Daily Record* – (Pennsylvania) **Seismic activity under investigation at Peach Bottom station.** The area around Peach Bottom, Pennsylvania, Atomic Power Station has recently shown a slight increase in seismic activity, according to updated data analyzed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Using data from the U.S. Geological Survey and the Electric Power Research Institute, the agency will run additional analysis to determine if 30 plants across the nation should make improvements to address seismic risks, a NRC spokesman said. The area around Three Mile Island in Dauphin County did not register enough seismic activity to warrant additional analysis. Despite the increased activity at Peach Bottom, the plant is not at any immediate risk of seismic hazards. “These plants were built to withstand all types of natural phenomena such as hurricanes, tornadoes and earthquakes,” the spokesman noted. Recent applications submitted to the NRC for new nuclear power plants have referenced updated seismic information. The agency analyzed the data and researched the seismic hazards at each site, especially looking to see if a change in activity could lead to an event to damage a plant’s reactor core, the spokesman said. “Reactors in eastern and central states remain safe, since our analysis confirms that overall seismic risk remains low,” the director of the NRC’s office of nuclear reactor regulation said.
Source: http://www.ydr.com/ci_16024221?source=most_email

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

13. *September 8, WVIR 29 Charlottesville* – (Virginia) **Aker Wade Evacuated.** Aker Wade Power Technologies in Albemarle County, Virginia, was evacuated after receiving a suspicious letter September 8. The call came in at 9:13 a.m. when a female employee of the company that makes faster charges for electric automobiles had a reaction to a substance on the outside of a letter they received. The woman said she felt a burning sensation on her hands after handling the letter. Albemarle County Fire and Rescue crews were called to the scene. A Charlottesville haz-mat crew also responded. The building was evacuated. The employee was taken to the hospital as a precaution. Her injuries are believed to be non-life threatening. There is no word on the exact origin of the letter, it was sent to a lab for further analysis. According to an Albemarle County spokesperson, the fire marshal's office got lab results back September 8. There was no harmful substance in the suspicious letter. The building re-opened September 8. Source: <http://www.nbc29.com/Global/story.asp?S=13117639>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

14. *September 8, IDG News Service* – (International) **Report: RBS WorldPay hacker gets four years' probation.** The mastermind behind one of the biggest hacking paydays in history has been sentenced to 4 years' probation and a \$8.9 million fine, according to published reports. The 28-year-old suspect was sentenced September 8 according to Bloomberg News. He is considered the leader of a group of criminals who organized a 2008 precision strike on RBS WorldPay, the payment processing division of the Royal Bank of Scotland. In addition to his probation, the criminal must also pay back more than \$8.9 million to RBS WorldPay. Russia is trying to fight a reputation for being soft on cybercrime, but this light sentence won't do much to change that perception, according to analysts. Security experts said that the suspect falls into the same category of such highly accomplished cybercriminals of the caliber of the hacker best known for hacking into retailer TJX Companies and the Heartland Payment Systems payment-processing network. In March, that hacker was sentenced to 20 years in federal prison. Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9184179/Report_RBS_WorldPay_hacker_gets_four_years_probation

15. *September 8, Seacoastonline.com* – (Maine) **State police seize more than \$1 million from truck on Interstate 95 in York.** State police are not ready to say why a truck stopped for a routine inspection September 3 in York, Maine was transporting more than \$1 million in \$20 bills neatly bundled and placed in orange plastic buckets. “We’re looking into its source, where it was coming from and where it was going,” a Maine Public Safety Department spokesman said September 6. “We’re pretty sure it wasn’t going to the bank.” By September 7, an FBI official in the Portsmouth, New Hampshire office classified the case as an immigration and customs enforcement issue, but added little else. The Maine State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit stopped the Texas-registered truck in the southbound lanes of Interstate 95 about noon September 3. The driver, a 35-year-old male, and the passenger, a 46-year-old male, were found to be in possession of false logs, police said. A subsequent search of the truck’s trailer yielded U.S. currency estimated to be in excess of \$1 million.
Source: <http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20100908-NEWS-9080318>
16. *September 8, KIAH 39 Houston* – (Texas) **Bicycle bandit wanted for six area bank robberies.** FBI investigators need help identifying a bank robber. The suspect’s most recent robbery happened September 7 at Comerica Bank, 15701 Kingfield Drive in Houston, Texas. At about 1:45 p.m., he entered the bank and gave a teller a threatening demand note, officials said. The note stated, “I have a gun ... Put all the money in the bag or I will shoot you.” The “Bicycle Bandit” is called such because he fled his first scene on a bicycle, but he seems to have abandoned that practice. According to the FBI Bank Robbery Task Force, the teller gave the man some cash and he fled on foot in an unknown location. No one was injured and no getaway vehicle — not even a bicycle — was observed, investigators said. The Bicycle Bandit is described as a black male, 37-42 years old, between 5 feet 9 inches and 6 feet tall with a slim build and a bald head. During the robbery on Kingfield Drive, he wore a black shirt with a blue design on the front and dark jeans, officials said.
Source: <http://www.39online.com/news/local/kiah-bicycle-bandit-story,0,810860.story>
17. *September 8, Associated Press* – (Washington) **‘Mrs. Doubtfire’ accused of 6 Seattle bank hits.** A woman the FBI is calling the “Mrs. Doubtfire Bandit” has held up six banks since April 2010 in the Seattle, Washington area. She hands tellers a note threatening a weapon and violence. Surveillance photos of the woman remind agents of the movie character “Mrs. Doubtfire,” although the suspect is 5-foot-4, 110 pounds and looks gaunt.
Source:
http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2012840193_apwamrsdoubtfirerobberystld.html

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Transportation Sector

18. *September 8, Tuscaloosa News* – (Alabama) **Greyhound bus cleared after bomb scare.** Though the man behind a bomb threat September 8 was in custody more than

200 miles away, the scare he created stayed aboard a bus and made its way to Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The Tuscaloosa Police Department's bomb squad along with FBI agents and members of the bureau's Joint Terrorist Task Force responded to a BP gas station near Duncanville on Highway 82 to perform a bomb search on a Greyhound bus. The officers and agents did not find a bomb and sent the bus on its way. A spokesman for the FBI's Birmingham division said a Nigerian man boarded a bus in an unknown Mississippi town. "Once he was on board, he claimed he had a bomb and was going to blow up the bus," the spokesman said. The man was arrested and charged with making terrorist threats. However, because the bus driver told officers the man did not bring any luggage onto the bus, the bus was not searched for a bomb after he was taken into custody. "But later on, the Nigerian man did tell police that he did have luggage on the bus," the FBI spokesman said. "By that time, the bus was near Tuscaloosa and it was stopped at the (gas station) where it was searched."

Source:

<http://www.tuscaloosanews.com/article/20100908/NEWS/100909655/1007?tc=ar>

19. *September 9, USA TODAY* – (National) **Traffic deaths at lowest in 60 years.** Traffic deaths in the United State are at a 60-year low despite a slight uptick in miles driven, and the chances of dying on the road are the lowest ever, the federal Department of Transportation (DOT) said. The number of people who died on the nation's roads fell 3,615, or 9.7 percent, from 2008 to 33,808 last year, the latest available data from the department. That was the lowest total since 33,186 people were killed in 1950, when there were one-fifth the number of vehicles on the road than today. Officials attribute the decline in deaths to a number of safety-related factors, including increased seat belt use, stronger enforcement of drunken-driving laws, improved roads, safer vehicles and better coordination in the states. The motor vehicle fatality rate — the number of deaths per 100 million miles traveled — is the lowest ever: 1.13 deaths in 2009, down from 1.26 in 2008, DOT said, even as Americans were driving 0.2 percent more than in 2008.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2010-09-09-1Aroaddeaths09_ST_N.htm

20. *September 9, Associated Press* – (National) **FAA fatigue rules finally near.** After a regional airliner crashed in western New York, 18 months ago, killing 50 people, the government promised swift action to prevent similar tragedies. High on the list: new rules governing the number of hours pilots may work. It has taken 15 months and many missed deadlines, but the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is finally about to propose new regulations on how many hours airlines can schedule pilots to be on duty or in the cockpit. Lawmakers, industry officials and union leaders familiar with the process say the difficulty is in demonstrating how the safety benefits of stricter rules on flight hours would outweigh the cost of the rules to the struggling airline industry. Depending upon how they are written, new regulations could cost billions of dollars over the next decade. Current rules say pilots can be scheduled up to 16 hours on duty and up to 8 hours of actual flight time in a 24-hour period, with a minimum of 8 hours for rest in between. The rules don't take into account that it can be more tiring for regional airline pilots to fly five or six short legs in 6 hours than it is for a pilot with a

major airline to fly 8 hours across the Atlantic to Europe, say, with only one takeoff and landing. Takeoffs and landings are usually the most strenuous part of flying. The rules also don't take into account pilots whose schedules put them in the cockpit during the period, typically 2 a.m. to 6 a.m., when people are more likely to become fatigued than if they were awake the same number of hours during the daytime.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/business/promises-promises-faa-fatigue-609833.html>

For more stories, see items [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [8](#), and [10](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

21. *September 8, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota; Massachusetts) **Man, 69, accused of mailing white powder, obscene note.** A 69-year-old Twin Cities, Minnesota, man has been charged in connection with mailing a suspicious white powder along with an obscene note to Dow Jones & Co. in response to a magazine offer he received from the company. The man, of Long Lake, Minnesota, was charged in an indictment unsealed September 8 in federal court in Minneapolis with false information and hoaxes for allegedly sending the note and the powder, which turned out to be baking flour. According to the indictment: On May 10, the man mailed an obscene note and white powder to a Dow Jones mail facility in Massachusetts. The mailing was in response to a magazine offer he had received from the company. His return note requested, among other things, that he be removed from the company's mailing list. When a mail facility employee opened the note and discovered the powder, a portion of the facility was evacuated. A local hazardous-materials team was summoned to determine whether the powder posed a biological threat.

Source:

http://www.startribune.com/local/102472294.html?elr=KArks:DCiUHc3E7_V_nDaycUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aUU

For another story, see item [13](#)

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Agriculture and Food Sector

22. *September 8, Plattsburgh Press-Republican* – (New York; National) **Menands dairy plant recalls some milk products.** A dairy from Menands, New York is voluntarily recalling a variety of milk products sold throughout the North Country under four different brand names. The recalled milk products are all sold in plastic containers and packaged under the brand names Midland Farms, Corrado's Market, Jersey Dairy Farms and Trade Fair Premium. All of the recalled products — which were sold in New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Rhode Island — bear the plant code "36-1661." Some of the recalled products include gallons of milk, 2 percent milk, 1 percent milk and fat-free milk from Midland Farms, Corrado's Market and Trade Fair

Premium with date code “SEP24.” New York’s state agriculture commissioner alerted consumers September 8 that the recall was due to a potential improper pasteurization. The problem was detected by New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets milk inspectors during an equipment inspection September 7, when they found a failure of pasteurization equipment at the plant. While the recalled products have not been found to be contaminated with any harmful pathogens, the company is recalling the products as a precautionary measure.

Source: <http://pressrepublican.com/breaking2/x885939614/Menands-dairy-plant-recalls-some-milk-products>

23. *September 8, WAFF 48 Huntsville* – (Alabama) **Russellville chicken plant cited for health and safety violations.** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has fined Pilgrim’s Pride in Russellville, Alabama, \$135,000. OSHA said Pilgrim’s Pride violated 29 safety and health violations. Officials inspected the plant back in March, and said violations included unmarked fire exits, unsecured chlorine cylinders, unsafe batteries that exposed workers to acid burns and electrical shock, lack of machine guarding, lack of hand protection and electrical deficiencies. OSHA said several of the violations were repeat offenses. Representatives with Pilgrim’s Pride provided this statement about OSHA’s findings September 8. “Pilgrim’s is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for our employees. We take these matters very seriously and we intend to meet with OSHA officials soon to review the violations and correct any deficiencies.”

Source: <http://www.waff.com/Global/story.asp?S=13121198>

24. *September 8, Florida Times-Union* – (Pennsylvania) **Victory recalls some 2009 batches of Helios Ale due to explosion danger.** Victory Brewing Co., a Pennsylvania brewery, has recalled some 2009 batches of its Helios Ale that were overcarbonated, leading to the danger of exploding bottles. The batches affected by the recall were bottled on October 26 and December 10, 2009 (bottling dates are stamped on the front labels). No batches from 2010 are affected. Helios is a highly rated Saison-style farmhouse ale that is bottle conditioned. Secondary fermentation takes place in the bottle — in this case, a little too much fermentation. There is nothing wrong with the beer, according to the Pennsylvania brewery, but if one has any bottles with those date stamps, handle them with extreme caution. Victory recommends opening them carefully over a sink. There is really no recall in the sense that one needs to return the bottles. Instead, Victory is offering T-shirts as compensation.

Source: <http://jacksonville.com/opinion/blog/428360/ed-stansel/2010-09-08/victory-issues-recall-helios-ale>

25. *September 9, Peoria Journal Star* – (Illinois) **Year-old corn catches fire.** As newly harvested corn was being delivered September 8 to the Monica Elevator Co., the cooperative at 300 N. First St. in Dunlap, Illinois, was removing corn harvested in the fall of 2009 from its largest grain bin. While the bin with a storage capacity of more than 400,000 bushels was being emptied, employees discovered the out-of-condition corn on top was on fire. Spontaneous combustion is said to be the likely cause. “The fire may have been there prior to that,” Dunlap’s fire chief said. “But moving the grain

introduced oxygen into the bin, which allowed the fire to flare up.” The possibility of a towering inferno, reported at 3:42 p.m., brought firefighters from five departments to one of Monica’s two locations in Peoria County. The worst-case scenario did not materialize, but hours later, employees at the elevator were using as many as five front-end loaders to transfer corn that poured out of holes cut into the bin to a pile that could approach 200,000 bushels. “Our concern with this type of fire is that we don’t want the bin to fail,” said the fire chief, whose department was assisted by firefighters from Peoria, Akron-Princeville, Brimfield and Peoria Heights.

Source: <http://www.pjstar.com/news/x830926495/Year-old-corn-catches-fire>

26. *September 9, Cattle Network* – (Texas) **Two Comanche County cattle thieves arrested in Williamson County.** Two Comanche County, Texas, men were arrested September 4 for the theft of four head of cattle. A Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) special ranger led the investigation. On September 3, a 48- and 26-year-old allegedly stole the cattle from a rancher in Comanche County. The suspects drove on to the victim’s land, roped the cattle on horseback, loaded them into a trailer and drove to Schwertner, Texas, where they sold the cattle to Capital Land and Livestock. Suspicions were raised about the cattle at Capital, which tipped off authorities. Further investigations revealed that the cattle were stolen. The suspects were held at the Williamson County jail in Georgetown. Both suspects bonded out on bail of \$15,000 each. TSCRA has 29 special rangers stationed strategically throughout Texas and Oklahoma who have in-depth knowledge of the cattle industry and are trained in all facets of law enforcement. All are commissioned as special rangers by the Texas Department of Public Safety and/or the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. Source: <http://www.cattlenetwork.com/Two-Comanche-County-Cattle-Thieves-Arrested-In-Williamson-County/2010-09-09/Article.aspx?oid=1231771&fid>

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Water Sector

27. *September 8, Rockford Register Star* – (Illinois) **Rockton officials deny raw sewage got into Rock River.** Rockton, Illinois, village officials have sent a letter to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) denying that the village leaked untreated wastewater into the Rock River July 15. The IEPA sent the village a violation notice in August, which states that a power outage at the Hawick Street lift station caused raw sewage to leak into the river. The notice asks village officials to identify what caused the leak and propose action to prevent another leak. “We sent (the IEPA) a response saying that there was no spill and asking them to prove that there was, or tell us what indications make them believe there was,” the village president said. The IEPA has not reviewed the village’s letter, an IEPA spokeswoman said. The village has since upgraded security systems to its lift stations, which are used to pump raw sewage to a wastewater treatment plant. While the village has no plans to make any upgrades in response to the latest notice, ongoing repair work to the lift station on River Street and to the wastewater treatment plant is nearing completion. The roughly \$400,000 repair began in June.

Source: <http://www.rstar.com/news/yourtown/x863085613/Rockton-officials-deny-raw-sewage-got-into-Rock-River>

28. *September 8, Water Technology Online* – (California) **New study examines groundwater quality in North San Francisco Bay Region.** A U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) report prepared in cooperation with the California Water Resources Control Board found high concentrations of naturally occurring inorganic constituents — including arsenic, boron and lead — in about 14 percent of the primary aquifers in Napa, Sonoma, and Marin counties, according to a press release. Primary aquifers are those that supply public drinking water. The USGS assessment analyzed untreated groundwater from wells, not water delivered to consumers through the tap. Regulatory benchmarks are enforced only for water delivered to consumers, the release stated. Arsenic was detected above the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 10 parts per billion (ppb) in about 10 percent of the primary aquifers. Boron was detected above the California Notification Level, a non-regulatory benchmark of 1 part per million, in about 4 percent of the primary aquifers. Lead was detected at high concentrations in about 2 percent of the primary aquifers. The U.S. Action Level for lead is 15 ppb.
Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=74878
29. *September 8, Austin American-Statesman* – (Texas) **Sewage lift station knocked out by lightning.** A bolt of lightning struck a sewage lift station in the Spicewood Springs neighborhood in West Austin, Texas, September 8 according to Austin Water Utility officials. Sewage has spilled into Bull Creek and Lake Creek. The lift station at Spicewood Springs Rd. and Scotland Wells Dr. was hit by lightning and lost power overnight. Over 100,000 gallons of wastewater flowed into Bull Creek. Repair crews are working to install new pumps while currently pumping and hauling the sewage. Lift stations house pumps that move wastewater uphill to mains that carry it to Austin's wastewater treatment plants. Austin Water officials are urging people and pets to stay out of these and all flooded creeks until further notice.
Source: http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/weather/entries/2010/09/08/sewage_lift_sta.html?cxntfid=blogs_weather_watch
30. *September 9, WWMT 3 Kalamazoo* – (Michigan) **Police investigating breach at Kalamazoo's water supply.** Tests of water samples from two water-storage facilities in Kalamazoo, Michigan that were recently breached show that the city's water supply has not been contaminated, police and city officials said September 9. Officials from the department of public services collected bacteriological and chemical samples from storage facilities on Beech, Blakeslee, and North Dartmouth streets after Public Safety officers were called September 7 to the Blakeslee and Dartmouth sites and found that fencing at both locations had been cut. Officials said they still plan to drain and inspect a storage tank at the Blakeslee facility early September 10 that was breached during the incidents. The tank will be cleaned and disinfected and water samples will be taken from the tank for further testing before it is put back into service late next week. Meanwhile, police are increasing patrols near the city's water storage facilities, the public safety chief said.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/09/update_officials_say_further_t.html

31. *September 9, Mississippi State Department of Health* – (Mississippi) **Boil-water alert for the town of Tchula.** The Town of Tchula, Mississippi issued a Boil-Water Alert for customers who receive their drinking water from their water supply located in Holmes County. This affects approximately 1,483 customers. Water system officials notified the Mississippi State Department of Health of a systemwide pressure loss due to a malfunction at the well.

Source: http://www2.wjtv.com/jtv/news/local/article/boil-water_alert_for_the_town_of_tchula/194100/

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

32. *September 9, Press of Atlantic City* – (New Jersey) **Leaking substance forces evacuation of 75 from former Vineland hospital.** Authorities evacuated about 75 medical office workers from the former Newcomb Hospital in Vineland, New Jersey, after the workers complained of coughs and other “irritations” caused by a leaking substance in the building. None of the workers evacuated from the Chestnut Avenue facility needed medical attention, authorities said. Officials are trying to determine the nature of the leaking substance. The fire chief said the substance was leaking from a first-floor, water-filtration system. He said the substance could be connected with chemicals used to treat the water. The leak location is also the site of an X-ray processing facility that was used when the hospital was in operation, the chief said. Investigators will check to see if the leaking substance is connected to any possible remnants of materials used in the X-ray processing procedure, he said.

Source: http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/article_11fe7e20-bbb4-11df-a340-001cc4c03286.html

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Government Facilities Sector

33. *September 7, WTOG 11 Savannah* – (Georgia) **FBI: Former Ft. Benning soldier threatened to kill President Obama.** A Hinesville, Georgia, man accused of taking hostages at Fort Stewart in Fort Stewart, Georgia is expected to make his first appearance before a federal judge September 8 in Savannah, Georgia. The Hinesville man, 29, is being held on charges in connection with assault of a federal officer, kidnapping, threatening to kill the President and a former president. The man was stationed at Fort Benning from 2008 to 2009. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion 29th Infantry Regiment of the 197th Infantry Brigade.

Source: <http://www.wtvm.com/Global/story.asp?S=13113894>

34. *September 8, Snohomish Times* – (Washington) **FEMA awards Evergreen State College over \$1 million for seismic retrofits.** DHS's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has obligated \$1,092,347 in Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding to the state of Washington for seismic retrofitting of the Evergreen State Colleges Dormitory Residence Hall A. The dormitory houses 173 students during the school year, as well as the college's residential and dining services administration. According to the FEMA Regional Administrator, the seismic retrofit project will bring the facility up to current seismic code. At 10 stories, residence hall A is the tallest building on campus, said the FEMA administrator. This seismic reinforcement will enhance occupant safety in the event of a moderate-to-strong earthquake. FEMA is contributing 75 percent of the \$1,456,463 total project cost, while the Washington Emergency Management Division, which administers the program, is providing the remaining 25 percent. The HMGP provides funding for cost-effective projects designed to prevent damage and injuries in future disasters.

Source:

<http://www.snohomishtimes.com/snohomishNEWS.cfm?inc=story&newsID=1373>

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Emergency Services Sector

35. *September 8, Associated Press* – (California) **100 protesters throw rocks, eggs at LAPD station.** Protesters September 7 pelted a Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) station with eggs, rocks, and bottles despite the LAPD police chief's plea for calm earlier in the day and his promise to thoroughly investigate an officer's fatal shooting of a Guatemalan immigrant wielding a knife September 5. The shooting prompted demonstrations September 6 near MacArthur Park, a densely packed neighborhood west of downtown populated with recent immigrants from Central America. Four people were arrested on suspicion of misdemeanor inciting a riot, and others threw rocks and bottles at police, slightly injuring three officers. The protest gained steam again the night of September 7, when about 100 people took their complaints to the Rampart police station near downtown Los Angeles. Officers were trying to move the demonstrators away from the station but had made no arrests as of 9:30 p.m.
- Source:
- http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gREzQQDTEsm9naE3aIZkpn_orNyAD9I3HHU00
36. *September 9, Only Kent* – (Colorado) **Residents frustrated at lack of emergency news.** The fire in Boulder, Colorado continued to burn September 8 and it now appears that 92 homes have been destroyed with several more damaged. Residents in the Boulder area have become frustrated at the lack of news updates. Local resources have been so stretched that now federal assistance is in place from DHS's Federal Emergency Management Agency. Apparently, residents were asked September 7 to call 303-413-7730 for the latest information on the Fourmile Canyon Fire but the information from the call center had not been updated for the past day and was out-of-

date.

Source: <http://www.onlykent.com/20100908/boulder-colorado-fire-update-residents-frustrated-at-lack-of-emergency-news/>

37. *September 9, Global Security Newswire* – (National) **Study discourages immediate evacuation after nuclear strike.** In the initial aftermath of a nuclear strike on a major urban area, airborne radiation would place evacuees in greater danger than individuals who remain deep inside buildings or underground areas, Stanford University analysts concluded in a study published in late August. Congestion along possible evacuation routes would force people attempting to flee the site of a nuclear attack to withstand long periods of exposure to radiation, unless they learn of an impending strike well in advance, United Press International quoted a Society for Risk Analysis statement as saying. “The logistical challenge of an evacuation appears to be beyond current response capabilities,” said a Stanford management science professor who is one of the authors of the study. Past research has indicated that emergency workers would probably need 12 to 48 hours after a nuclear strike to set up exit sites.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20100908_2660.php

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Information Technology Sector

38. *September 8, The Register* – (International) **Adobe Reader 0day under active attack.** Researchers have uncovered sophisticated attack code circulating on the net that exploits a critical vulnerability in the most recent version of Adobe Reader. The click-and-get-hacked exploit spreads through e-mail that contains a booby-trapped PDF file that remains virtually undetected by most anti-virus programs, according to the security researcher who first alerted Adobe to the threat. It was being sent to a small group of individuals who “work on common issues,” he said, causing him to believe they were narrowly selected by the attackers. On September 8, Adobe confirmed that the vulnerability affects Reader 9.3.4 and earlier versions for Windows, Mac OS X, and Unix. The company’s security team is in the process of figuring out when it will release a patch. Adobe is working with security companies to help them develop detection and quarantine techniques to contain any attacks. In the meantime, there are no mitigations users can take other than to exercise due care in opening PDF documents. It may also make sense to use an alternate PDF viewer such as FoxIT, but it is not yet been confirmed that other programs are not vulnerable. The malicious PDF, which also exploits Adobe Acrobat, uses some highly sophisticated techniques to ensure success. It contains three separate font packages so it works on multiple versions of the Adobe programs, and it also has been designed to bypass protections such as ASLR, or address space layout randomization and DEP, and data execution prevention, which are built in to more recent versions of Microsoft Windows.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/08/adobe_reader_0day/

39. *September 8, IDG News Service* – (International) **After Google incident, Wi-Fi data collection goes on.** Four months ago, amidst a backlash from government regulators

and privacy advocates, Google stopped collecting Wi-Fi data with its Street View cars. But that doesn't mean Google has stopped collecting wireless data altogether, and neither have other companies such as Apple. Instead of sending out cars to sniff out wireless networks, Google is now crowdsourcing the operation, with users of its Android phones and location-aware mobile applications doing the reconnaissance work for it. In the past few months, Apple has quietly started building a similar database, leveraging its large base of users to log basic Wi-Fi data. There are others: A Boston, Massachusetts company, Skyhook Wireless, has been logging wireless access points for years, as has its competitor, Navizon of Miami Beach, Florida. It is a trend that has been spurred by the intense interest in applications such as FourSquare and Facebook Places. As it becomes increasingly important for programs that run on a user's phone to know exactly where a person is — to be location-aware in industry parlance — having a way of figuring out exactly where a person is becomes critical. But the companies collecting this data have not come under much scrutiny, many users do not understand how the data is being collected or why, and security experts are just now starting to discover some of the ways this information could be misused.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9184143/After_Google_incident_Wi_Fi_data_collection_goes_on

40. *September 8, TrendLabs Malware Blog* – (International) **New fake facebook spam waves sent through cutwail/pushdo botnet.** Who said that Cutwail/Pushdo botnet was dead? The recent Cutwail/Pushdo takedown was a great help on stopping this huge botnet in sending spammed messages all over the world. Yesterday, however, a new wave of fake Facebook messages was sent through some Cutwail zombies for about 30 minutes, for a total of approximately 5,000 spammed e-mails. The spammed message informs user that they received a private message and contains a bogus Facebook link which actually points users to a Canadian pharmacy Web site hosted in China. As of this writing, however, the said site is no longer online. This recent Pushdo/Cutwail update shows us that the spammers behind this botnet are on the move, and rebuilding their servers, domains, and the rest of their infrastructure in order to restore their botnet. Source: <http://blog.trendmicro.com/new-fake-facebook-spam-waves-send-through-cutwailpushdo-botnet/>

41. *September 8, DarkReading* – (International) **Microsoft gets legal approval to acquire former Waledac domains.** A federal court judge recommended that Microsoft be allowed to acquire the 276 Internet domains that formerly drove the Waledac botnet, which plagued users and enterprises for more than 1 year. According to a USA Today report, the U.S. District Court of Eastern Virginia has granted a motion that, in effect, gives Microsoft permanent ownership of the Web domains once used by the Waledac cybergang to send instructions to hundreds of thousands of “bot” PCs. The idea is to put the botnet permanently out of business by taking its component parts out of the cybercriminals' hands, Microsoft said in a blog. “Our legal action to permanently shut down the botnet has been successful, and we have begun working with Internet service providers and CERTs to help customers remove the Waledac infection from their computers,” Microsoft said. The number of unique IP addresses infected by Waledac,

which was taken down earlier this year, is steadily declining, Microsoft said. “As of August 30th, there were just more than 58,000 unique IP addresses infected with Waledac malware,” the company said. “That’s down from nearly 64,000 addresses during the week of July 23rd.”

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/attacks/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227300428&subSection=Attacks/breaches>

42. *September 9, Help Net Security* – (International) **Android SMS Trojan delivered via SEO techniques.** Android users searching for pornography on their smart phones could be in for a costly surprise. During the course of researching the origin for the first SMS Trojan for Android devices, Help Net Security found a new Android package masquerading as a porn media player but which instead sends SMS messages to premium rate numbers. The SMS messages cost \$6 each and are sent silently in the background without the user’s knowledge. The latest malware (detected as Trojan-SMS.AndroidOS.FakePlayer.b) is being distributed via clever search engine optimization (SEO) techniques, a clear sign that cyber-criminals are making every effort to infect mobile devices. The use of SEO is a significant development that confirms our belief that mobile malware — especially on Android devices — is a potentially lucrative business for malicious hackers. The code in the latest variant is similar to the first version and I’m pretty sure the same person (or group) is involved in creating and distributing this Trojan. It is currently targeting Android users in Russia.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1460

43. *September 9, Help Net Security* – (International) **Multiple vulnerabilities in Cisco Wireless LAN Controllers.** The Cisco WLC family of devices is affected by two denial of service vulnerabilities, three privilege escalation vulnerabilities, and two access control list bypass vulnerabilities. An attacker with the ability to send a malicious IKE packet to an affected Cisco WLC could cause the device to crash and reload. This vulnerability can be exploited from both wired and wireless segments. IKE is enabled by default in the WLC and cannot be disabled. Only traffic destined to the Cisco WLC could trigger this vulnerability. A TCP three-way handshake is needed in order to exploit this vulnerability. Three privilege escalation vulnerabilities exist in the Cisco WLCs that could allow an authenticated attacker with read-only privileges to modify the device configuration. Two vulnerabilities exist in the Cisco WLCs that could allow an unauthenticated attacker to bypass policies that should be enforced by CPU-based ACLs. No other ACL types are affected by these vulnerabilities.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9848>

44. *September 9, Computerworld* – (International) **Mass injections and malware infections at Media Temple.** Since at least the spring of 2010, a swarm of infections have been found in Media Temple Web hosted sites. It provides Web hosting for ABC, Adobe, NBC, Starbucks, Sony, Time, Toyota, Volkswagen and approximately 350,000 other domains internationally. Many of its sites run WordPress which is a wildly popular target to hackers and cyber criminals. Google Safe Browsing diagnostics states that of the 66,060 Media Temple sites tested in the last 90 days, 12,423 had malicious

content. Some 311 sites have functioned as intermediaries to infect 900 other sites. Also in the last 90 days, 28 Media Temple hosted sites have distributed malware to 650 other sites.

Source:

http://blogs.computerworld.com/16904/mass_injections_and_malware_continue_at_media_temple

45. *September 9, The H Security* – (International) **iOS 4.1 released for iPhone and iPod touch.** Apple has released version 4.1 of its iOS operating system for iPhone and iPod Touch devices. The major update includes a number of new features and addresses several critical security vulnerabilities in the mobile OS. In total, the 4.1 release of iOS closes a total of 24 security holes, 20 of which are related to the WebKit rendering engine used by the OS's Safari web browser. The company says that all of the WebKit issues could allow an attacker to inject and execute arbitrary code. Apart from the security fixes, after updating their devices, iPhone 4 users can shoot high dynamic range (HDR) photos and upload HD videos via Wi-Fi to YouTube and MobileMe. Users with iPhone 4, 3GS or iPod Touch (2nd generation or later) devices can also play games against their friends using Game Center. Other changes include the addition of support for the Audio/Video Remote Control Profile (AVRCP) Bluetooth profile, allowing users to control media playback on their mobile devices using, for example, Bluetooth headphones, performance improvements on older devices like the iPhone 3G, and heavy integration with Apple's iTunes Ping social network.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/iOS-4-1-released-for-iPhone-and-iPod-touch-1075740.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

46. *September 8, Grand Forks Herald* – (Minnesota) **Phone service restored in NW Minnesota.** Telephone service was restored late September 7 to about 10,000 customers in four northwestern Minnesota counties, nearly 7 hours after a fiber-optic cable was cut near Holt. Phones were back in service by about 10:15 p.m., the office manager for Wikstrom Telephone Co. in Karlstad, Minnesota said. The outage covered large portions of Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Kittson and Marshall counties. The outage affected all 6,000 of Wikstrom's customers, and 4,000 customers of Century Telephone Co. in the four counties. "Some had everything out, some only had local service out," the office manager said. In some areas, the outage affected both landlines

and cell phones, local emergency dispatchers said.

Source: <http://www.grandforksherald.com/event/article/id/174860/group/homepage/>

47. *September 8, Salem Sunbeam* – (New Jersey) **Three charged with cutting telephone lines in Salem, other counties for scrap; damage estimated at \$1M.** Three Pittsgrove, New Jersey residents have been charged with theft in connection with the cutting of telephone wire from utility poles near Pittsgrove Township, state police said September 8. The value of the stolen wire, and the cost of materials and labor to restore thousands of Verizon customers' service, is estimated by the telecommunications company at \$1 million, state police said. A 30-, 35- and 44-year-old were arrested in connection with the incidents, according to state police. They were charged with theft, criminal intent, conspiracy to commit theft, and criminal mischief, police said. The materials were reportedly sold on the scrap metal market. According to reports, police said a Verizon employee contacted the Bridgeton Barracks of the state police September 3 after observing multiple sections of telephone wire that had been cut on Almond Road, and were left on the shoulder of the roadway. After responding to the area, troopers reportedly located one suspect leaving a corn field near Parvins Mill Road and Garden Road, according to state police. Police said they learned the three individuals were allegedly responsible for stealing telephone cable in Salem, Gloucester and Cumberland counties.

Source:

http://www.nj.com/salem/index.ssf/2010/09/three_charged_with_cutting_tel.html

For another story, see item [44](#)

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Commercial Facilities Sector

48. *September 8, Associated Press* – (National) **DOJ investigating at least 5 anti-Muslim acts.** The Department of Justice is investigating a handful of apparently anti-Muslim incidents in Texas, Tennessee, California, and New York. FBI agents and civil rights division investigators also are looking into vandalism and other incidents at mosques or mosque construction sites. The open criminal investigations were confirmed by civil rights division spokeswoman in response to a query from the Associated Press. The incidents have followed sustained criticism of the planned mosque near the former site of the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan in New York City. Early plans for the project, known as Park51, call for a 500-seat auditorium, a September 11 memorial, and prayer space. Among the incidents under investigation as potential hate crimes, all dating from July and August: A Muslim cab driver in New York City had his face and throat slashed in a suspected hate crime. Arson was committed at the site of a future mosque in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where leaders of the local Islamic Center won permission in the spring to build a new mosque after outgrowing their rented space. A brick nearly smashed a window at the Madera Islamic Center in central California, where signs were left behind that read, "Wake up America, the enemy is here," and "No temple for the god of terrorism." A fire was set and graffiti was left at the Dar El-

Eman Islamic Center in Arlington, Texas. Police arrested five teenagers after the son of one of the founders of a mosque in Waterport, New York, on Lake Ontario was sideswiped by a sport utility vehicle. One teen was charged with firing a shotgun in the air near the mosque a few days earlier.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hy6JrOX5CbcySP025oWWyRZ7YPfAD9I3BSC80>

49. *September 8, WJZ 13 Baltimore* – (Maryland) **2 Buildings evacuated after Hazmat spill.** A highly toxic spill prompted the evacuation of two Baltimore, Maryland office buildings September 8. Crews are still working to clean up the dangerous spill, which happened around 10 a.m. The buildings were evacuated for a hydrofluoric acid spill. The process of dealing with the acid is extremely dangerous because even one drop can lead to serious health problems. Eleven workers in two buildings were evacuated. No one was hurt. Crews first thought they were only dealing with a few gallons of acid but quickly realized they were wrong. “Evaluation by our haz-mat task force revealed closer to 50 to 55 gallons of hydrofluoric acid spilled inside this building in an approximately 20 by 30 foot area,” the haz-mat chief said. Officials say it happened at Porcelite of Baltimore. Employees use the acid to make etchings into stone. Acid is not combustible, so they are not worried about an explosion. “We do have our medical director and EMS personnel on the scene to manage any medical crisis,” the haz-mat chief said. Haz-mat specialists neutralized the acid, but investigators are trying to find out what caused the massive spill. The other businesses that were evacuated include a small recording studio, a hardware warehouse, and a countertop manufacturer.

Source: <http://wjz.com/local/hazmat.baltimore.spill.2.1902138.html>

50. *September 8, WSFA 12 Montgomery* – (Alabama) **U.S. attorney’s office looks at charges for explosive device found at WalMart.** The police department in Montgomery, Alabama, said it has identified two men in connection with a case involving a live ordnance found in the parking lot of a local WalMart. Now, the U.S. District Attorney’s office is looking into possible charges over the incident. The men left the unexploded ordnance in the parking lot of the Ann Street WalMart around noon September 4. Units responded to the scene of a possible grenade and located a live 40 mm round that had been placed in the front parking lot closest to the store. The Montgomery Police Department’s Bomb Squad responded, took charge of the devices, and rendered it safe. Authorities acquired video evidence of the suspects and released their images to the media. One suspect turned himself in after seeing the story on TV. He said the incident was all a poor decision by himself and the other person, and that they were just trying to get rid of the device. Police said they are still searching for the second suspect, and though he is not identified to the media, they do know who he is.

Source: <http://www.wsfa.com/Global/story.asp?S=13121867>

51. *September 9, North Andover Eagle-Tribune* – (Massachusetts) **150 guests evacuated from Haverhill Best Western early this morning.** More than 150 guests had to evacuate the Best Western in Haverhill, Massachusetts September 9 after the hotel received “suspicious calls.” The hotel manager said that after the hotel received the

calls, night-shift personnel called police. “We received suspicious calls and contacted the authorities,” he said. “All of the guests and staff are safe and that was the priority.” The hotel had 70 of its 126 rooms occupied overnight, he said, with roughly 150 guests. Haverhill police said one person was arrested in Lawrence September 9 in connection with the incident. The suspect is now in the custody of Haverhill police. The Haverhill Fire Department also responded and helped with the evacuation.

Source: <http://www.eagletribune.com/latestnews/x1899099164/150-guests-evacuated-from-Haverhill-Best-Western-early-this-morning>

For another story, see item [21](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

52. *September 8, CNN* – (New York) **Two brush fires burn at New York national park.** A pair of brush fires broke out within 2 hours of each other September 8 on New York’s Staten Island, closing part of a national park. One of the blazes — a six-alarm fire — was burning in the Fresh Kills section of the Gateway National Recreation Area, according to a National Park Service spokeswoman. The other fire, a four-alarm blaze, was burning in a residential neighborhood nearby. The ignition sources were unknown, the fire department said. The Gateway National Recreation Area encompasses a wide swath of grassland on Staten Island and is normally used for recreational activities.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/09/08/new.york.brush.fires/>

53. *September 8, New Jersey Herald* – (New Jersey) **Fire that destroyed Delaware Water Gap house and barn under investigation.** Fire that destroyed two structures early September 8 in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is under investigation, the superintendent said. The cause of the fire is under investigation. Just after 10 a.m., a visitor called the park’s 24-hour emergency communications center and reported seeing flames and smoke along the river on the New Jersey side of the park. Firefighters from the National Park Service and from Blairstown Fire Department arrived on the scene at 10:30 a.m. and found the smoldering remains of two structures, a barn and a house. The structures were located just south of Turtle Beach, near the historic Coppermine Inn on Old Mine Road. Neither building was in use at the time. National Park Service rangers and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms are conducting an investigation into the cause. Neither the Turtle Beach facility nor the Coppermine Inn was damaged and Turtle Beach remains open to the public.

Source: <http://www.njherald.com/story/news/Water-Gap-fire-9-10>

54. *September 8, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Another large marijuana bust in Pike National Forest.** Law enforcement officers have completed eradication operations on two, separate marijuana plantations in the Pike National Forest in Deckers, Colorado. The joint operation involved the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office, the U.S. Forest Service, the Colorado National Guard, South Metro Fire Department, the Drug

Enforcement Administration and the South Metro Drug Task Force. The first operation was conducted August 25, and the second was carried out September 8. “We appreciate the teamwork shared between all agencies involved and even though we did not apprehend the suspects, we feel this was a successful operation,” the Douglas County sheriff said. The cultivation sites contained a total of 4,400 marijuana plants. Officials estimated that the value of the plants at more than \$8 million. Crews removed the marijuana plants as well as an extensive drip irrigation system. They also recovered firearms at the site. Helicopters from the Colorado Army National Guard assisted by flying plants and debris associated with the plantation site out of the area. Officers September 8 encountered four Hispanic men who fled the scene. An emergency notification was sent out to 174 phone numbers within a 4-mile radius of the scene, alerting citizens to be on the lookout for the men.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/24932154/detail.html>

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Dams Sector

55. *September 8, WNED 970 AM Buffalo* – (New York) **Engineers study aging retaining wall.** The Army Corps of Engineers and the City of Buffalo, New York, are going to spend \$500,000 to figure out the condition of the retaining wall which separates LaSalle Park from the Black Rock Channel, under an agreement signed yesterday. Now, Corps divers will be going underwater next month to see the condition of a wall approaching 100 years old. To suggest how long it has been since the wall was looked at, one end of the study area is a sea plane ramp near luxury Waterfront high-rises and a series of bollards along the top of the wall once used to tie up boats from the lakes and the State Barge Canal. Located inside LaSalle Park, the Colonel Ward Pumping Station treats and pumps the drinking water for the city. “The water facility needs a stable shoreline,” said a city engineer. Piping for the pumping station is buried in the bedrock below the sea wall.

Source:

<http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wned/news.newsmain/article/1/0/1697892/WNED-AM.970.NEWS/Engineers.Study.Aging.Retaining.Wall>

56. *September 9, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Explosives found at power plant in Caucasus.** Staff at a hydro-electric power station in Russia’s volatile North Caucasus found explosives in what appears to have been a bid to blow up the plant, Russian news agencies reported September 9. Staff found the makeshift explosive device following a fire at the Irganaiskaya power plant in Dagestan the night of September 7, the RIA Novosti agency reported, quoting law enforcement officials. It had been planted underneath the main hydroelectric unit, the agency said. “It was equipped with an electric detonator,” the news agency quoted a law enforcement source as saying. “Apparently, they planned to remotely detonate the explosive device.” Experts from the country’s FSB security service neutralized the device, news agencies reported. The regional branch of the emergencies ministry had earlier reported that the fire at the plant was caused by a technical failure, indicating there were no signs of foul

play. But the Interfax news agency, citing an unidentified local law enforcement official, said that one of the plant's employees had gone missing just before the fire broke out and authorities were now looking for him.

Source:

http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle08.asp?xfile=data/international/2010/September/international_September424.xml§ion=international

57. *September 9, Pioneer Press* – (Illinois) **Village takes underwater look at reservoir.** Members of Liquid Engineering, a Billings, Montana, company, were in Elmwood Park, Illinois, August 31 to inspect the village's water reservoir under the skate park at Fullerton and 74th avenues. "The reservoir is about 190 feet by 130 feet, and about 15 feet at the deepest," said the village water superintendent. "It holds about 2 million gallons of water." He said the reservoir is divided in half, with two access ports and a valve chamber. "The engineers dive in and look at the condition of the reservoir," he said. "There may be a crack or two. That's typical. Or there might be some sediment. The best way to describe cleaning that up is that the diver will use a giant wet/dry vac that will suck up any sediment and discharge it into the sewer." The last time the village inspected the reservoir was in 2006.

Source: <http://www.pioneerlocal.com/elmwoodpark/news/2668734.elmwood-park-reservoir-090910-s1.article>

58. *September 9, WTHI 10 Terre Haute* – (Indiana) **Commission wants Corps for Levee study.** A southern Indiana levee commission recommended a major study be done by the Army Corps of Engineers. Federal Emergency Management Agency officials want an in-depth update on the ability of the levee system in Vincennes to protect the community. An advisory commission in the community has voted unanimously to have the Corps do the evaluation at a cost of \$380,000. Officials point out the study is just the first expense in what could prove to be a pile of projects connected with the levee. The final decision on the levee study rests with the Vincennes City Council, which will consider the proposal September 13.

Source: http://www.wthitv.com/dpp/news/local/southern_indiana/commission-wants-corps-for-levee-study

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